

**AN ORDINANCE
of the
CITY OF
MINNEAPOLIS**

By Reich

Amending Title 12, Chapter 244 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Housing: Maintenance Code.

The City Council of the City of Minneapolis do ordain as follows:

Section 1. That Section 244.770 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

244.770. - Composting.

(a) *Defined.* For the purposes of this article, composting is a microbial process that converts plant materials to a usable organic soil amendment or mulch.

(b) *Compost containers.* Composting shall be conducted within a covered or uncovered container, enclosed on all vertical sides. Containers shall be of a durable material and shall be constructed and maintained in a structurally sound manner. Wood used in the construction of a compost container must be sound and free of rot.

(c) *Size.* The maximum size for a compost area on lots with a residential structure shall be two hundred forty-five (245) cubic feet for lots smaller than five thousand (5,000) square feet, four hundred five (405) cubic feet on lots five thousand (5,000) to ten thousand (10,000) square feet, and five hundred (500) cubic feet on lots over ten thousand (10,000) square feet. The maximum size on lots without a residential structure shall be four hundred five (405) cubic feet on lots smaller than five thousand (5,000) square feet, seven hundred twenty (720) cubic feet on lots five thousand (5,000) to ten thousand (10,000) square feet, and one thousand, one hundred twenty-five (1,125) cubic feet on lots larger than ten thousand (10,000) square feet.

(d) *Location on property.* The compost container(s) shall not be located closer than one (1) foot from the rear property line and shall not be located in any required front or side yard as defined in the zoning code, nor closer than twenty (20) feet to any habitable building off of the subject property.

~~(e) *Compost materials.* Compost piles shall include an appropriate mix of nitrogen-rich materials (or "greens") and carbon-rich materials (or "browns") to reduce odor and ensure adequate composting. Meat, bones, fat oils, grease, dairy products, diseased plant material in which the disease vector cannot be rendered harmless through the composting process, feces, plastics or synthetic fibers shall not be placed in the compost container(s).~~

(e) *Acceptable materials for backyard composting.* Composting materials at a backyard compost site are those approved by the Minnesota Rules 7035.0300. Composting materials include: food scraps, garden wastes, weeds, lawn cuttings, leaves, and prunings. Compost piles shall include an appropriate mix of

nitrogen-rich materials (or "greens") and carbon-rich materials (or "browns") to reduce odor and ensure adequate composting.

(f) *Prohibited Compost materials.* The following compostable materials shall not be placed in a backyard composting container: meat, fats, oils, grease, bones, whole eggs, milk or other dairy products, human or pet wastes, pesticides, herbicides, noxious weeds, diseased plant material in which the disease vector cannot be rendered harmless through the composting process, and any other mixed municipal solid waste that may cause a public health risk or create nuisance conditions.

(f g) *Maintenance.* Compost materials shall be layered, aerated, moistened, turned, and managed to promote effective decomposition of the materials in a safe, secure and sanitary manner. Compost materials shall be covered with a layer of material such as leaves, straw, wood chips, or finished compost to reduce odor.

(h) *Educational materials.* The city shall prepare and distribute informational materials to assist persons wishing to conduct source-separated organic composting in an efficient manner that minimizes public nuisance conditions.

(g i) *Abatement.* All compost containers and/or compost materials not in compliance with this section shall be declared a public nuisance and are subject to abatement as provided in Chapter 227 of this Code. In addition, the director may require individuals whose compost containers and/or materials are not in compliance with this section to attend a master composter or similar educational program as a condition of continuing to compost on a subject property.